

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) In addition to four Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) established earlier, during the last three years, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has strengthened the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Stations (ZARS) in six districts to take up the additional functions of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK). These districts are Karbi Anglong, Naogaon, Lakhimpur, Karimganj, Kamrup and Tinsukhia.

(b) The ICAR has identified 25 districts of NER for establishment of new KVKs. The State-wise details are Assam (6), Arunachal Pradesh (4), Manipur (2), Meghalaya (5), Mizoram (1), Nagaland (2), Sikkim (3) and Tripura (2).

(c) A detail proposal has been submitted to the Planning Commission in this regard.

Likelihood of another Earthquake in Ahmedabad

†3835. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's reaction on the news-item published under the caption, "Ahmedabad main phir bhukamp ka dar, gharon mein nahin ja rahey log", published in Dainik Jagran on 28th January, 2001; and

(b) the arrangements Government are going to make in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) It is not possible to predict the occurrence of earthquakes. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including earthquake. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government with financial and logistic support.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.